

Missouri Assessment Program
Spring 2001

Social Studies

Released Items
Grade 11

Directions

In the following passage, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins explains the origin of the Social Security Act, which was passed by Congress in 1935. Use your own knowledge and the information in the passage to do Numbers 10 through 12.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Roosevelt was determined to have a bona fide self-maintaining [social security] system—that is, the premiums paid in were to support the benefits paid out. Obviously an insurance program could not begin to pay benefits at once. Obviously it would be confined to those presently employed and paying premiums or [who] have a portion of the premiums [paid] on their behalf by their employers. But the suffering of those now out of work or aged or dependent or sick, for whom no such premiums ever could be paid, challenged our immediate attention.

We agreed that we must bring in a program for unemployment insurance and one for old-age insurance.

10 Which of these best explains why President Roosevelt was determined to have a self-maintaining Social Security system?

- Ⓐ to eliminate any possibility of a future recession
- Ⓑ to avoid creating a massive Washington bureaucracy
- Ⓒ to reduce the government's role in social programs
- Ⓓ to ensure taxpayers received a return on their contribution

11 Prior to the New Deal's social programs under President Roosevelt, the primary help for the poor and unemployed was provided by

- ☐ Ⓐ bank loans
- ☐ Ⓑ private charity
- ☐ Ⓒ welfare programs
- ☐ Ⓓ government insurance

12 The British economist John Maynard Keynes developed a radical new economic theory. According to his theory, during times of depression, government spending could create jobs through a program of public works. Explain how applying this theory might help (1) the unemployed, (2) businesses, and (3) the government.

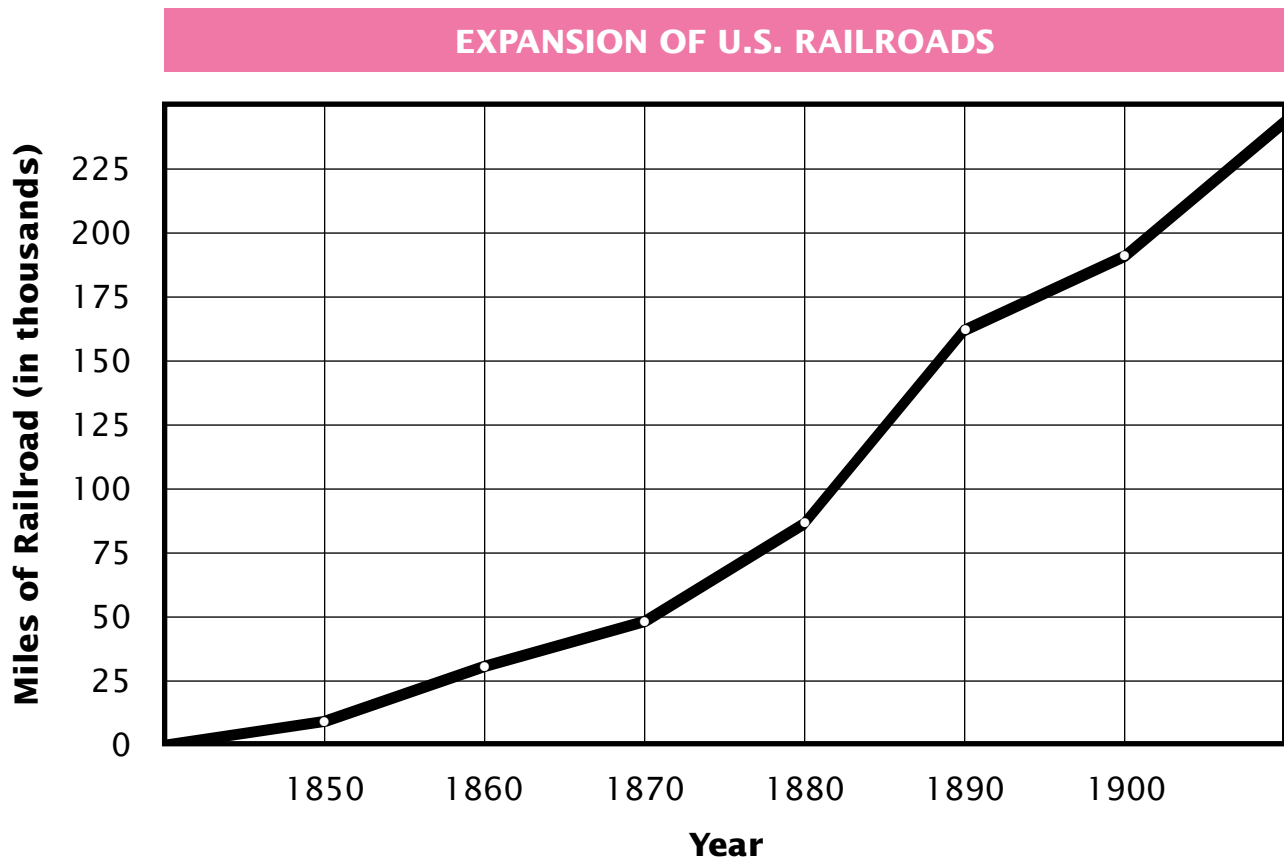
1. The unemployed: _____

2. Businesses: _____

3. The government: _____

Directions

The graph below shows the expansion of railroads in the United States from 1850–1900. Use your own knowledge and the graph to do Numbers 6 and 7.



6 Which of these events in the 1860s had the least impact on the expansion of railroads in the United States?

- ☐ Ⓐ the end of the Civil War
- ☐ Ⓑ the industrialization of the North
- ☐ Ⓒ the passage of Reconstruction reforms
- ☐ Ⓓ the growth of cattle ranching in the West

7 Describe two technological improvements that allowed Boston families of the 1880s to obtain beef from Texas cattle.

1. _____

2. _____

